

WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN? THE CITY'S GOING TO CHANGE HANDS!



Ras Baraka is a energetic young adult who is highly qualified for the mayoral candidacy in Newark, New Jersey. Not only is he campaigning to empower the people in the city of Newark but he has initiated a long awaited youth thrust. Ras intends to galvanize the youth from every spectrum of the city and mobilize them to take responsibility and control of themselves.

Ras is a 1991 graduate of Howard University who worked hard and received a Bachelors degree in Political Science. Ras was elected Vice President of the Student Government while attending Howard University and formed a student-youth organization called Black NIA F.O.R.C.E.

During his studies at Howard University in 1989 Ras lead protests to remove Lee Atwater Chairman of the Republican National Committee. Ras was in support of the ideals of better housing, lower tuition, Afrocentric education, and multi-cultural curriculum. Ras has supported former Mayor of Washington D.C. Marion Barry, and former federal judge and now Florida Congressman Alcee Hastings.

Ras helped organize food drives and clothing drives. Ras helped organize students at Tennessee State, Morgan State, U.D.C., Morris Brown in Atlanta and has made alliances with various youth organizations nationwide. Ras worked on the Malcolm X commemoration committee in Washington D.C.

Ras Baraka has spoken at many jails and worked in Washington, D.C. training young boys in alternative jail programs. Ras helped to start the Annual Hip Hop Conference at Howard University which still exists today.

Ras has also worked with Sister Souljah and Ben Chavis at the Commission for Racial Justice. Ras helped organize and finance a youth camp for welfare hotel children in New York City. In the duration of his efforts in Washington, D.C. Ras and Kevin Powell edited an elaborate anthology of Black and Latino poets and writers under 30, entitled, In The Tradition (Harlem River Press).

Ras Baraka has spoken at community forums and given readings across the country. Ras has periodically addressed issues of racism, poverty, and destitution. Ras intends to sweep corruption and class betrayal out of power in the city of Newark and bring a new era by representing the majority of the people.

Ras is currently an Eighth grade teacher at Warren Street School and is also the coach of the boys basketball team. He is the school chairman of high teacher expectations committee.

One of Ras Baraka's campaign slogans is utilizing, "The Energy Of The Youth and the Wisdom of the Elders." Ras expresses sheer enthusiasm at the mere mention of the advancement of the youth and the organization of the young and the old. He has been an essential part of the academic structure at Warren Street School. He leads the after school E.W.T. workshop (Early Warning Test). Mr. Baraka can be seen in the Warren Street community talking to parents and citizens in the area.

Not only is Mr. B, as his students refer to him, a caring teacher; but he is also a loving father of an intelligently cultivated 2 year old daughter, Amandaila. Ras' family has lived in the city of Newark for 70 years. Ras' grandfather is an active Deacon at Bethany Baptist Church in Newark. As the son of prominent poet-activists, Amina and Amiri Baraka, Ras has inherited the art and love of poetry as well; and continues the legacy representing in the tradition with yet another

literary contribution soon to be published, "Post Genocidal Trends," a spoken word album with infectious grooves.

Because of the portrayal of gang violence in the media and in motion pictures Ras is convinced that African American youth of this nation are often labeled as criminals or gang members without justifiable reasons which is stereotypical and racially biased. Ras wants to prove that youth are not criminals and furthermore should not be victimized but properly educated. Thus, focusing on taking a stance and challenging fascist laws the people can transform the city of Newark into a peoples Democracy.